

Belchertown celebrates veterans *with decades-old ceremony*

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
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BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Veterans Services put together a special service every Veterans Day in order to commem-

orate, celebrate, and remember the sacrifices these brave men and women have gone through.

The Girl Scouts as well as Boy Scout Pack 507 was there to help with the ceremony, and the boys and girls a part of the Chestnut Hill Community School Choir and Band directed by

Jason Mosall provided classic patriotic music for all the enjoy.

“The most meaningful part of this celebration is seeing the younger generation learn about our veterans, and celebrate and honor their sac-

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TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
A sign featuring a quote that represents what it means to be a veteran.

The hundreds of community members packed into the high school auditorium to celebrate veterans.

Police department holds special lunch to celebrate veterans

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
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BELCHERTOWN – The police department put together a special luncheon over the weekend in order to honor the veterans in our community.

The luncheon gave a special opportunity to thank and celebrate the veterans of our community, as well as taking the time for the veterans to sit with one another and enjoy a meal and fellowship.

“It’s giving them something back for their service, and show them our appreciation,” said Sgt. Neil Lozier. “It’s a celebration of veterans, to give them a good meal and entertainment and show we are thankful.”

The local and beloved band, The Willies, came to the senior center to donate their time to providing music for all in attendance to enjoy while they eat.

The meal, composed of turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, green beans, and cranberry sauce, was made and served by the culinary club at Pathfinder Regional School.

The police department used special funding that is used to put up the veteran banners around town to put on this lunch with the funds leftover, and this is the second year the department has been able to do this for the veterans.



TURLEY PHOTO BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
The members of the police department who helped make the lunch special: (left to right) Chief Pacunas, Lieutenant Jenks, Sergeant Mann, and Sergeant Lozier.

The superintendent of Pathfinder came, as well as other members of the school to see the students, as well as thank the veterans for their service and dedication to our country.

“I’m extremely grateful that our Police Department sponsors this luncheon,” said Belchertown Veterans Coordinator Charly Oliva. “It’s so wonderful to bring

many of our community’s veterans together to share stories and break bread together.”

The luncheon was truly a special opportunity for the town, and all of its veterans, to come together to remember their service, and take time to thank all who served in any capacity.

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Auxiliary sells poppies to help our veterans

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
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GRANBY – When it comes to our veterans, who worked hard and made sacrifices for us, and it is only right that we work to ensure that they are taken care of when they get back.

The American Legions’ Auxiliary got a table together outside the Earlee Mug over the

weekend to sell poppies in order to raise money that will help veterans and their families.

The money raised through the poppy drives goes towards oil for heating the homes of veterans, or any other they need, including food or gift cards.

The Auxiliary is composed of people related to a veteran by marriage or birth, which includes

Please see **POPPIES**, page 14



TURLEY PHOTO BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
Rose Ladue and Jen Bernatchez with the Auxiliary, handing out poppies and accepting donations to help benefit our veterans and their families.

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Nonprofits look for volunteers at special library fair

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
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GRANBY – Nonprofit organizations are truly what keep our communities together, providing free events, preserving our histories, or filming the town meetings.

The nonprofit organizations, because of their lack of regular funding, require the community to step in and help, providing volunteer work, help, or funds.

In total, Granby has fourteen nonprofit organizations working to make the community a better place, and of those fourteen, nine came to the library for a special event.

The library hosted a special fair to give these organizations a spotlight so that the community can be aware of the projects they are completing, and what help they are in need of.

“This was the first one ever,” said library director Jenn Crosby. “It is the product of our Friends of the Library group talking about a need for more volunteer involvement and the Director of the GCAM, who was filming our meeting at the time, expressed interest in having an event to gain more interest for all nonprofit groups in town.”

The idea from Cáit Cullen, the director of the Granby Community Access Media, kicked off this new idea for a fair, and the Friends moved to reach out immediately.

The Friends of the Granby Public Library, Granby Public Schools’ PTO, the GCAM, Granby Lions Club, Granby Historical Association, Granby Preservation Society, the Cultural Council, and the Mathew J. View Memorial Fund.

“It was great to network with the other local nonprofit groups that I don’t typically get to see or hear from, being so busy at the Library all of the time,” Crosby said.

Each of the organizations had a table set up of information about their groups, and a sign-up sheet for volunteers, and there were plenty of tasty treats to enjoy.

The Friends of the Granby Public Library is open for more volunteers to help with planning events, and they are looking forward to a few special events for the holidays.

On November 16, they will be hosting a fin pastel art workshop for all to enjoy and is coming up fast, so mark your calendars.

On December 7, they will have a knit and gift basket sale with



Terry Johnson, the president of the Historical Association with a mural of their history in photographs and newspaper stories.

a hot chocolate bar in the morning, and donations for the sale are being accepted until December 6.

The Granby Public School’s PTO is hosting several fundraisers at restaurants and is having a wreath drive for the holidays. You can find more information about their upcoming events on their Facebook page, including an Ice

Cream with Santa the first week of December.

The GCAM is looking for volunteers for recording events and

meetings around town and provides free production and editing

Please see **VOLUNTEERS**, page 4



King Lion Dave and his wife Carole Cote with the Granby Lions Club.



Xander Huff with the Friends of the Granby Public Library, ready to hand out lots of stickers with his friend, Anabel Evran taking the photo.



Crystal Dufresne and her two awesome helpers with a table about the Mathew J. View Memorial Fund.



THANKSGIVING REVIEW

“Hi Paul, she was great! Lots of plump meat and just enough fat to help prevent her from drying out. We will be having leftovers for a very long time.”
— Beth from Belchertown

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Community Mosaics comes to Clapp Memorial Library Nov. 22

BELCHERTOWN—Cynthia Fisher, mosaic artist from Buckland, Mass. and creator of the mosaics in Shelburne Falls will be giving a presentation on her 10+ years of community projects in Guatemala on Friday, Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. at Clapp Memorial Library.

Fisher has made three community murals in Quetzaltenango, the second largest city in the country, and close to 35 murals in the town of San Lucas Tolimán on beautiful Lake Atitlán.

Fisher has been bringing groups of Americans to participate since 2019, information will be included on trips in January and February of 2025 and for 2026 and beyond.



For more information, cindy@bigbangmosaics.com. BIGBANGMOSAICS.com,

Baystate Wing Auxiliary selling Lotto calendars

PALMER—The Baystate Wing Hospital Auxiliary is currently selling their January 2025 Lotto Calendars. The one-month calendar, which costs \$5 each or 3 for \$10, has a daily winning amount of \$100 with special drawings on Jan. 1 and Jan. 31.

For over 65 years the Baystate Wing Hospital Auxiliary has been actively supporting local healthcare through its sponsorship of special events and sales from the Baystate Wing Hospital Gift Shop located on the first floor of the hospital.

The calendars will be on sale beginning Oct. 29 at the

Baystate Wing Hospital gift shop. Funds raised by the annual Lotto Calendars support the Auxiliary's scholarship program and their philanthropic efforts that benefit Baystate Wing Hospital.

Whether looking for something special for a patient, a gift for a special occasion, or an item for the home, the Baystate Wing Hospital Gift Shop offers many unique, hand-selected items. For more information about the Lotto Calendar visit the gift shop located on the first floor of the hospital or call 413-370-8169.

Belchertown High School use of Indoor Track

Monday, Nov. 11, 2024
– June 13, 2025

BELCHERTOWN—The track will be open for use between 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

The track will be closed on weekends, holidays and vacations. You may view the Belchertown Public School calendar at the link below: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XbmQWEyCvXj5sPml-566fi2szFDmaQkK/view>

Walkers must have an approved CORI/SORI on file with the school district. CORI/SORI is valid for 3 years. If you do not have a valid

CORI/SORI, please come to Belchertown Public School, Central Office, 14 Maple Street, Belchertown to complete an in-person CORI/SORI form. You will need to show a valid driver's license or state ID.

- All walkers must sign in and sign out in the Main Office at Belchertown High School.

- All walkers must wear a visitor's badge while walking the track.

- All walkers must leave the building if there is a fire drill/emergency and report to the front of the building to be accounted for when checking attendance.

Holiday Craft Fair to be held Dec. 7

WARE – A Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Ware Junior Senior High School gym.

Admission is free and food is available to purchase. There

will be over 50 vendors, fundraising and raffles.

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November 22, 1963

It was a warm autumn day in Dallas,
 The Kennedys were accepted by the Texans
 with no apparent malice.
 As the motorcade passed the Texas Book Depository
 and turned onto Elm,
 Our country stood proudly with JFK at the helm.
 Jack sat on the left and Jackie on the right,
 Men on the grassy knoll had our President in their
 sight.
 How many shots were fired? Three? Four? or Five?
 The outcome was the same
 because John F. Kennedy would not escape alive.
 Was it Oswald, the Mafia, or the CIA?
 America lost its innocence that very day.
 Many theories abound concerning this assassination
 plot,
 But the United States had lost its leader, its integrity,
 and Camelot.
 Images of that long weekend in November still seem
 very clear,
 The Caisson on Pennsylvania Avenue, John Junior's
 salute,
 Jackie with a tear.
 How do I explain to my children when they ask me
 who's to blame?
 I can take them to Arlington National Cemetery
 to see the Eternal Flame.
 Still I try to put into perspective November 22,
 1963,
 Do I keep searching for the truth or let JFK's legacy
 inspire me?

- Michael S. O'Rourke

Annual craft fair and bake sale set for Nov. 23

BELCHERTOWN—Come enjoy our 3rd annual Craft Fair / Bake Sale for some holiday shopping with 40 crafters on Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The craft fair / bake sale will be at the Family Moose Lodge, 244 Fuller St., Chicopee. There will be food to purchase for lunch and afterwards indulge in some baked goods for dessert. There will also be a raffle for everyone to participate in. Proceeds benefit American Cancer Society, Quaboag Valley Relay for Life.



VOLUNTEERS from page 2

training. Anyone interested can reach out to Cáit Cullen at director@granby-media.com.

The Granby Lions Club works hard to provide community services once a month, and this month, they will be helping to install new fencing in town. You can find a GoFundMe for the community projects, as well as other ways to help the community and their Facebook.

The Granby Historical Association is excited for a special Christmas celebration at the Quirk House on December 7, 8, 14, and 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., where people can learn about the old traditions of Christmas pasts.

The Preservation Society works hard to preserve the historic buildings within the community, one of them being Kellogg Hall, and will host a special Festival of Trees at the Hall. Look out at their Facebook page for more information on this special event.

The Mathew J. Vieu Memorial fund is run by Crystal Dufresne and the family of veteran Vieu in order to memorialize his service to our country, and to celebrate his life. Yearly, they host OORAH runs, and the proceeds go towards helping veterans in need.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Members of the Granby Cultural Council looking for volunteers.

"I love our unique Granby community, and I think it's important to showcase to the townspeople how they can get more involved and help,"

said Crosby. "Having all the groups in one place at one time was a perfect opportunity to do so."



Terry Lajoy holding up the posters for the Preservation Society, showing their hard work at working to keep Kellogg Hall standing.



Cáit Cullen and Anthony Muse with the Granby Community Access Media group.



No special event is complete without some tasty snacks and drinks.



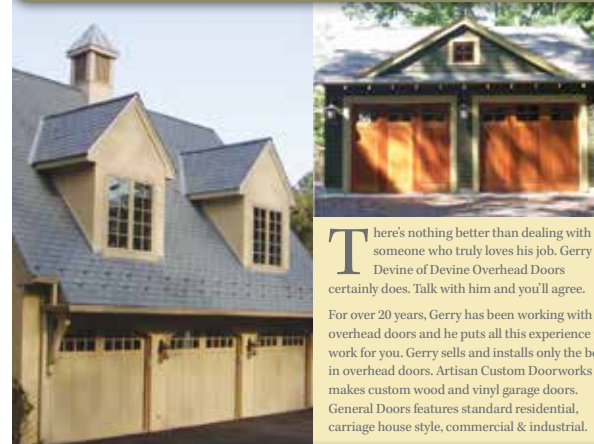
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VETERANS from page 1

rifices, and enjoy doing so,” said Belchertown Veterans Coordinator Charly Oliva.

As part of the ceremony, the CHCS choir sang the themes of the different military branches, including the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard, led by Choir Director Sarah Van Ells.

A Girl Scout read to the crowd about a special resource available to all veterans in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts called the Hero Act, which serves veterans who gave their services and time to this country.

“We thank you for your sacrifice and your service,” said Senator Jake Oliveira, who came to share a few words at the ceremony. “Now serving in the state senate... the meaning of a veteran almost changes. Now, I think about what kind of services I can do to help provide for veterans.”

Oliveira also talked about the Hero Act, and the different ways it can benefit and help veterans, providing assistance with things like healthcare, housing, and more.

Band Director worked with his students in order to bring in beautiful renditions of “America the Beautiful” and “My Country Tis of Thee” to the stage with instruments to celebrate our nation’s brave veterans.

“It speaks volumes that so many chose to spend this beautiful morning here at the high school to honor the country’s veterans,” said State Representative Aaron Saunders.

The number of people who came to share in this time, whether the people who volunteered, the children who made cards for the veterans, or the students who provided the music with their directors, showed just how much Belchertown cares for its veterans.

Tech Sargeant Sharon Kahl-Oey, who served for eleven years as a fuel technician with the air force, came to share what it meant to her to be able to serve.

“I was happy to be a part of it, and I helped provide fuel that brought people home,” Kahl-Oey said. The air force makes up about 1% of the country, and only 1% of the air force are fuel technicians, making it a task with few people, but great in need and importance.



Boy Scout Pack 507 readying the flags for a special ceremony.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



Veterans standing up to be celebrated by those in attendance.

“To be a part of the community is really great... but to have all the veterans in this community has really been helpful in the transition to civilian, so thank you, to all of you,” Kahl-Oey said.

The dedication to veterans does not stop, and outside Oliva’s office is a drop-off location for people to bring donations of money, nonperishables,

and hygiene items that veterans need, in order to support them not only financially and physically, but emotionally as well.

“I think if we continue to remember our veterans and their families, support them and love them, we’re doing right by our country’s promise to take care of those who gave us our freedom,” said Oliva.



“We fight our country’s battles, in the air, on land, and sea.”



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OPINION



Working septuagenarian asks about disability benefits

Dear Rusty:

I retired at my full retirement age, am now 79 and will be 80 in December.

I have been working consistently since. I get a meager Social Security benefit, only about \$800 due to my federal retirement offset. Most jobs I have held since filing and collecting SS have involved very labor-intensive work, to include my current position. This has taken a toll.

My question is there any provision in Social Security that permits re-evaluation of Social Security benefits for disability after one has collected and paid into the system for some 15 years? I suspect not but thought I would ask, since at my not so tender age, I am faced with having to cease employment that generates needed income.

Signed: Working Still at 79

Dear Still Working:

I'm afraid that Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits are no longer available once you reach your SS "full retirement age" or "FRA," which for you was age 66. Indeed, anyone collecting SSDI at full retirement age is automatically converted to their regular SS retirement benefits at the same amount they were previously receiving on SSDI. That's because SSDI benefits are intended to sustain workers up to their SS full retirement age, but SSDI goes away once FRA is attained.

Thus, the provision to apply for SS disability allows only those who have not yet reached their full retirement age to seek disability benefits. Once FRA is reached, SSDI benefits are no longer available. Simply for your awareness, there would be no financial advantage for you to receive SS disability benefits anyway, because the most you can get on SSDI is your full retirement age amount. Thus, since you retired and claimed SS at your full retirement age, no additional disability amount would be available anyway.

FYI, I admire, at your "tender age," that you are still actively working, but I'm afraid you cannot claim more now on Social Security disability because you've already reached your FRA. However, from what you've written, your SS retirement benefit has been affected by the so-called Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) which affects those with a separate pension earned without contributing to Social Security.

If you've been separately working and contributing to Social Security since you left government service and you now have more than 20 years contributing to SS from other non-government "substantial earnings," it's possible that you can request a reevaluation of your WEP penalty.

WEP provides relief for those, who have more than 20 years contributing to Social Security. So, if you have more than that over your lifetime, you could ask that your WEP reduction be reevaluated to consider your additional years contributing to Social Security. If that is the case, your monthly amount would be increased to consider those additional years contributing to SS since you first claimed.

I suggest, if you now have more than 20 years of contributions to Social Security from your non-government work over your lifetime, that you call Social Security to request reevaluation of your WEP retirement amount. FYI, you can see exactly how many years of SS-covered work you have by requesting an "Earnings Statement" from Social Security. You can get this Statement by calling 1-800-772-1213 or you can also get it at your personal "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Social Security will also be able to tell you this directly when you call. In any case, I wish you good fortune, and hope that reevaluating the WEP reduction to your SS benefit may offer some small financial relief as you go forward.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for informational purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Turkey vulture

A Brimfield resident, who emails quite often noticed three turkey vultures on Sunday, Oct. 20

He said, "I went outside and I saw soon seven turkey vultures flying by along the ridge east of the house. The birds drifted off to the south east. A few minutes later a group of ten vultures drifted slowly south about a half a mile west of the first group. These birds flew around for awhile, circling and gaining altitude until they were quite high. The ten birds then drifted out of sight."

The turkey vulture is 26 inches tall and has black feathers. The trailing end of the wings are silver and the head has no feathers and is red. Immature turkey vultures have gray heads. They are often seen soaring with wings held in a V. They rock side to side, but rarely flap their wings.

Turkey vultures feed by scavenging on carrion, fresh or decayed. They find their food by both sight and smell. Sometimes, they are seen in roads feeding on road kill. They are often seen coming or going to nightly roosts. They use thermals of warm air and updrafts to stay in the air. When the thermals and updrafts end and they have to flap, they usually stop flying and land.

When perched, they will spread their wings. I saw one several years doing this

against a high tension pole in Oakham.

The female lays one to three dull white eggs, occasionally with dark marks in a nest scraped on bare ground, in a hollow stump, cave, cliff edge or old building. Grunts and hisses are heard at the nest site often during competition over food.

Pond tour

The Brimfield resident sent an emailing and reported he and his wife did a tour of some of the ponds in Brimfield, Holland and Warren on Sunday, Nov. 3. He said, "In Brimfield (Sherman Pond) and Holland (Holland Pond) we saw a few pairs of hooded mergansers and a belted kingfisher at the pond in Warren on South Street. Other ponds had lots of Canada geese and mallards."

He also said, "In the yard recently the most exciting sighting was a Carolina wren that showed up briefly a couple of times. Then yesterday we had an immature accipiter was seen sitting on top of one of our feeding stations." He wrote, "The bird was either a female sharp-shinned hawk or a male Coopers hawk based on size, it was a little bigger than a mourning dove, the bird's size was in the area where the sizes of the two species overlap. The tail shape is suppose to help differentiate the species but I'm not confident about the tail shape, I'm not sure which species we saw?"

Later in the day he saw a fox sparrow doing the sparrow feeding behavior, jumping back and forth to stir up ground looking for seeds. He said, "That was the first fox sparrow seen this fall. One or two are usually seen during fall migration."

Moose

Although not bird related – no feathers on this critter – I saw a moose cross New Braintree Road in Oakham one evening. It was dark, but I did get a good view of its rear portion as it went over a stone wall and into the woods.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce held annual meeting

BY PAULA OUIMETTE
pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE – The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce held its annual meeting last week at the Publick House, featuring keynote speaker Colleen Campbell.

At the Nov. 7 meeting, newly elected President Renee Niedziela of J. Stolar Insurance Agency, said her family's company has been a part of the chamber for over 20 years, and how this year has "been incredible" for the chamber.

"The chamber is back," she said. "The chamber is an excellent resource to talk to businesses, professionals...we build relationships and trust."

Niedziela said this has been a rebuilding year for the chamber, with the hiring of CEO James Przypek, who has served in that role for seven months.

Przypek said he is "so impressed" with the chamber and its network of businesses.

In his role as CEO, Przypek has brought back the chamber's annual golf outing, enhanced the business guide and produced a quarterly newsletter. He said 15 new members businesses have joined this year as well.

Following the election of officers, Przypek introduced Campbell, a Sunderland resident whose background in equine studies has allowed her to help people rediscover joy and power in the treatment of PTSD, trauma, grief and depression.

Campbell founded Heroes, Horses & Hounds, an organization that works with rescued horses and dogs that are retrained for service

and animal assisted programs.

She spoke about ways you can achieve success in all areas of your life through finding a work/life balance.

Campbell said for 20 years, she "put herself through it," pushing herself professionally until she reached burnout and knew she needed to make a change.

"It's been a very good journey now, but going through it was awful," she said.

Campbell shared how some of the things we do to help us be productive and organized, such as creating "to-do" lists, can actually cause additional stress and hold us back.

"Why does a traditional to-do list fail?" Campbell asked. "It doesn't get organized by priority."

Campbell said another factor is discipline, which she said is something that all people are capable of harnessing.

"Discipline is not a personality trait, it's something that we all have," she said. "Each day we have a certain amount."

Campbell said one way to make the to-do list work for you is to prioritize one task in each of these three areas: personal, physical and professional. She said there are going to be days where the focus needs to be on one area over the other, and that is okay.

"Life is not a balance, a perfect even keel all the time...think balancing, not balance," she said. "The important part is what works for you."

Campbell encouraged people to make themselves the most valuable asset in their professional lives in order to achieve work/life balance.

She said one way she does this, is to ask herself the question "Why am I doing what I am doing?" seven to nine times, or until she feels an emotional reaction.

"This is the core piece that is going to get me up and going," she said. "That's what's going to help you clarify what you want to do."

Another tip she suggested was to envision your perfect day; from start to finish.

"By having this perfect day in mind, find what works for your business and your life," she said. "Look at your day, what did I do well in? Is there something I want to change, or did I rock it today?"

Establishing time blocks is another way to keep your day productive while avoiding burnout, working one to two hours at a time and taking a 30 minute break before getting back to work. She said people start looking for distractions from work when their brains are tired.

"It's a great way to stay productive longer throughout the day," Campbell said.

Campbell said it's also important to give yourself rewards to keep momentum going.

"Give yourself little prizes and celebrations," she said.

Campbell encouraged attendees to delegate works that could be completed by someone else, or with the help of artificial intelligence or automation. She said to follow the 80/20 rule, spending 80% of your day doing what sets you apart and delegating the other 20%.

Campbell explained the physical impact that burnout can have on the brain and how it causes "func-

tional freeze." Burnout can be both mental and physical.

"Burnout is 'I want to, I need to, but I can't,'" Campbell said.

Campbell said studies have shown that burnout floods the body with cortisol and adrenaline, which creates inflammation in both the body and the brain. She said it starts to kill cells and physically shrinks the brain.

This shrinking can impact memory, decision making and learning.

"You start to feel like you are losing it, because you are," she said.

The good news, Campbell said, is that the brain can heal and that 1,200 new cells are made every day. She said the new cells go where they are used, and that new synapses can be created through movement and play.

"Exercise and play are so important," Campbell said. "By putting play into your day...it allows you to learn better."

Healing the brain after burnout can be achieved through meditation, exercise, craniosacral therapy, sound healing, grounding, time spent in nature and time spent with supportive friends and families.

"The science of laughter is amazing," Campbell said. "It brings you back to wellness... make sure you're having fun."

Campbell said spending 20 minutes outside just listening to the birds sing is another way to help heal the brain, as it brings us back to our primal roots, when birds singing represented safety.

"It triggers the safety signal in our bodies," Campbell said. "Birds don't sing unless it's safe."

Campbell demonstrated three

exercises that can be accomplished right from your chair, that will help signal safety in our bodies.

The first one was curling your upper body forward over your legs while sitting; the second was running in place (either standing or sitting down) and the third was placing one hand over your stomach and the other over your chest and taking deep breaths.

For more information about Campbell's work and Heroes, Horses & Hounds, visit www.heroeshh.org.

About QHMA

The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce was established in 1978 to assist businesses in the Quaboag Hills Region, serving the towns of Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren, and West Brookfield.

Its mission is to advance economic growth and tourism in the region, to be an advocate for policies that achieve the development goals of the communities, and to advance the interests of its members.

The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce offers more than just networking opportunities. It helps the business community from the smallest entrepreneurs to the largest corporations; through trainings, seminars, and more.

The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce is located at 4 Springfield St., Suite 525, Three Rivers. For more information, visit qhma.com, call 413-283-2418 or email info@qhma.com.



2025

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Tue., Nov. 19 | 11:00 a.m.
Polish American Citizens' Club
355 East St.
Ludlow, MA

Thur., Nov. 21 | 1:30 p.m.
West Springfield Sr. Center
128 Park St.
West Springfield, MA

Thur., Dec. 5 | OPEN HOUSE
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Willits Hollowell Center
Mt. Holyoke College
25 Park St.
South Hadley, MA

Sat., Dec. 7 | OPEN HOUSE
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn
800 Hall of Fame Ave.
Springfield, MA

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police Log

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of Oct. 30 through Nov. 5. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the calls police responded to, there were 26 incidents, seven accidents, 10 arrests/summons and 25 citations.

**ARRESTS/SUMMONS
Wednesday, Oct. 30**

10:44 a.m. – A 43-year-old Middletown, Connecticut, was issued a summons for uttering a false check, so the bank reported fraud. The check was passed and cashed, and they presented their identification. They left, and there are no vehicle descriptions. An officer was doing a background investigation on Oct. 28. There was a similar incident in Hadley. They were able to identify the person from video footage.

Thursday, Oct. 31

12 a.m. – A male party was arrested on charges of strangulation, assault and battery, threat to commit a crime and unarmed robbery. An officer went to a residence to assist a person in getting their belongings. The resident told the officer the person was at the residence the day prior and choked them.

Saturday, Nov. 2

5:05 a.m. – Nathan A. Davis, 20, 210 Granby Rd, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor, possession of alcohol under 21, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and a marked lanes violation.

An officer was dispatched to State Street for a report of a rollover accident. The officer found the operator trapped in the vehicle. With the assistance of Belchertown Fire personnel, they were removed from

the vehicle. There was alcohol in the vehicle. They were traveling west, and they went over the fog line. They struck a tree and mailbox before rolling over. The person was transported to the hospital with an officer. They were returned to the station and later transported to the regional lock-up.

Sunday, Nov. 3

12:01 a.m. – A male juvenile was issued a summons for the following charges: use without authority, unlicensed operation, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, marked lanes and obstruction of justice. An officer and Belchertown Fire responded to Chauncey Walker Road for a report of a single-vehicle accident in a field. Upon arrival, the officer found the youth, who claimed they had been forced into a car by someone in the home, and the person took off into the woods. They requested state police k-9 and drone. The search showed nothing. They were transported to the hospital. While at the hospital, they told the officer the story was made up. The accident occurred when the vehicle crossed the line and went down an embankment.

4:12 p.m. – Gene D. Destromp, 37, 1540 Park Street, Apt. 2, Palmer was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, operating with a suspended license, possession of an open container and failure to drive in the right lane.

An officer got a call reporting that the vehicle drove off the road, striking several rocks. The person was in the vehicle with alcohol in the center console, unsteady on their feet. They said someone else was driving, but witnesses said that was incorrect. They were transported to the hospital with an officer and later to the station where they were booked.

Monday, Nov. 4

12:49 p.m. – A 21-year-old Springfield male was issued a summons for an unregistered motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, attaching plates and speed greater than posted. An officer doing radar on Bay Road

saw a vehicle going fast 47 in a 25, and they pulled them over.

**INCIDENTS/ACCIDENTS
Wednesday, Oct. 30**

3:19 p.m. – A parent reported a child was threatened while at school. Info was taken and forwarded to the School Resources Officer.

3:25 p.m. – An officer responded to a residence to help a person get property as part of a restraining order.

Thursday, Oct. 31

5:31 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident. There was a deer struck by a vehicle that was later euthanized. There were no injuries, and no tow was needed.

4:18 p.m. – An officer spoke with someone with a harassment order and alleged that the person lied at the hearings and wanted the information noted. The officer compiled a report.

7:03 p.m. – A dog bit a juvenile child while tricking or treating. The child was taken by their parents to urgent care to be treated. The animal control officer is investigating the matter, and the owner was identified.

Friday, Nov. 1

11:24 a.m. – An officer assisted a Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife employee by taking possession of a gun found in a hunting area. It was retrieved and entered into property.

3:49 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Amherst Road. A vehicle struck another vehicle on Amherst Road after the front vehicle braked quickly. No injuries were reported, and no tows were needed.

7:20 p.m. – An officer spoke with a resident who is a medical provider about incidents of harassment when they were approached by a patient while doing daily activities and followed home on occasion. Officers spoke with the patient. No further incidents have been reported.

Saturday, Nov. 2

11:14 a.m. – An officer retrieved a person's firearm. The family members were cleaning out a residence and found a firearm. The officer took the firearm and placed it into evidence.

8:50 p.m. – An officer responded to assist Belchertown Fire and paramedics.

Sunday, Nov. 3

2:19 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on State Street. A person was backing into a parking space, misjudged and struck the side of the car next to them. No injuries were reported, and no tow was needed.

Monday, Nov. 4

1:32 a.m. – Belchertown Fire and paramedics needed additional assistance, and an officer drove the ambulance.

2:03 a.m. – An officer responded to assist Belchertown Fire and paramedics with a person who was trying to harm themselves.

7:31 a.m. – An officer responded to a three-vehicle crash on North Main Street. Two vehicles were in traffic when the third came from the other side of the intersection

and stuck one of the vehicles head-on. The initial vehicle had three people who needed to be transported from the scene. One other operator was transported as well. All three vehicles were towed.

11:35 a.m. – Keys found on Park Street were dropped off at the station and placed into property.

6:31 p.m. – A relative requested a well-being check on a loved one.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

3:11 a.m. – A motor vehicle struck an opossum that needed to be euthanized. The officer did so.

2:17 p.m. – An officer contacted a residence to speak with someone about a neighbor harassing them.

8:13 p.m. – An officer responded to assist Belchertown Fire and paramedics.

9:30 p.m. – An officer responded to Barton Street and State Street for a report of an injured deer. They found a registration plate with no vehicle, went to the residence, and found the vehicle, but the registration plate was missing.

10:04 p.m. – A gift card was found at Jabish Brook Middle School that was turned into the station for safekeeping.

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 132 calls from Nov. 1 through Nov. 7. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all the information.

Friday, Nov. 1

4:38 p.m. – A motorist reported a minor two-car accident. There were no injuries.

Saturday, Nov. 2

9:49 a.m. – A postal worker reported that a resident just backed into his mail truck. There were no injuries.

Sunday, Nov. 3

9:22 p.m. – A resident reported that a political sign on their lawn was stolen again.

Monday, Nov. 4

5:32 a.m. – The same resident who called yesterday about their stolen political signs stated that they had hidden an Apple air tag in one of the signs, located at an address in Ludlow. Ludlow PD was contacted and located the sign and several others in the back of a pickup truck.

8 a.m. – Two more residents from Batchelor Street reported that their political signs were stolen overnight.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

7:23 a.m. – A resident reported that a vehicle drove off the road and into their trash barrels and almost hit another vehicle. The operator was issued a criminal citation for operating with a suspended MA driver's license.

Wednesday, Nov. 6

2:01 p.m. – A motorist reported that a school bus van struck a bicyclist. Granby Police and Fire responded. The bicyclist had minor injuries and was transported to the hospital.



BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

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Grandparents: Donald & MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware
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Deadline for photos and forms is Monday, December 16, 2024



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TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

The kids a part of the Pathfinder culinary club having fun preparing and serving the meal for the veterans.



Members of the Pathfinder school leadership team, standing proudly with their students who worked hard to make this meal for the veterans.



Thank you cards made by the kids of the local schools for the veterans to take home.



The Willies Band happy to provide some music for the veterans: (left to right) Garry O'Goley, Skip DiLoreto, Willie Lecuyer, and David Hamelin.



ABOVE: A table of veterans and their family, enjoying a meal together, and sharing stories, knowing they are not alone.



RIGHT: A seat of honor to remember those who cannot be with us today.

LUNCH from page 1

“Belchertown is a wonderfully supportive and loving community,” said Oliva. “Many approach me to see what they can do to help our veterans. Our community values our veterans, and I am proud to serve and live here.”

The police department worked hard with the support of the senior center and it’s dining hall space to ensure that this special lunch would be able

to bless the veterans of the town.

“I think if we continue to remember our veterans and their families, support them and love them, we’re doing right by our country’s promise to take care of those who gave us our freedom,” said Oliva.

“The veterans deserve recognition, and its truly an honor to be able to put together this for them, even if it is just a meal and some set aside time for them to come together,” said

Lozier.

With all of the veterans living in our community, we should remember to stop, and take a moment to thank the man or woman who gave up some time of their life to serve our country.

Whether it was in war on the battlefield, on a ship taking care of the mechanics, sailing the ocean blue or flying over the earth out of combat, all forms of service are service, and all service deserves a thank you.

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Local nonprofit collects dresses for proms

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

PALMER – When it comes to prom season, it can be a stressful time because of the cost of the dresses alone and finding one can be difficult as well.

However, finding that dress doesn't have to be so difficult, or stressful, and two dedicated moms have worked to make that possible.

In 2019, after their daughters went to prom, Natalina Tulik and Michelle Anecchiarico saw how expensive the dresses were and thought of how they would only be worn once, and then hung them up in a closet.

And so, they decided to reach out to the community to start a drive for used prom dresses, announcing it out to all the nearby communities.

Soon enough, they had seven hundred dresses come in at their

first drive, and they became overwhelmed by the support of the community for the project and outgrew several locations to store the donated dresses.

"Everything came together," said Anecchiarico. "Literally every time we needed something, it materialized."

After Sears closed, they were getting rid of their clothing racks for free, and they jumped at the opportunity, and a friend of theirs happened to stop by with his pickup-truck.

Second Time's A Charm is a 501c3 nonprofit, and it is completely volunteer-run, and everything that comes in from the dresses to shoes, purses, jewelry, and more is donated by the community.

"We call it the dress library," said Tulik. "It's a wonderful place to be, and everyone here is always so happy. It is my happy

Please see **DRESSES**, page 11



Dry cleaning and tagging dresses that are waiting to find their places on the racks.



Some beautiful wedding dresses that came in for the bridal boutique.



Short dresses and long dresses ready for hanging and freshly cleaned.



Dresses ready to be hung up on the racks and go home with someone new.

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USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN **\$9⁹⁹** lb CUT FREE

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST **\$5⁹⁹** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS WHOLE EYE ROUND **\$3⁹⁹** lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF **\$4⁹⁹** 5 LB BAG

USDA INSP. FROZEN TURKEY BREAST **\$1⁶⁹** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG **\$1⁸⁸** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH CHICOPEE PROVISIONS BLUE SEAL KIELBASA **\$4⁹⁹** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN SWEET POTATO PIE **\$2⁹⁹** ea

USDA INSP. FROZEN BACON WRAPPED SHRIMP 15 COUNT **\$8⁹⁹** ea

USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 31/40 COUNT 2 LB BAG **\$14⁹⁹** ea

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One of the many dress drop-off locations from the drive.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
Need a prom dress? Second Time's a Charm has got you covered.

DRESSES from page 10

place, as well.”

As each year passes, new volunteers come to join the team, and they stay after seeing the amazing work that this nonprofit does for the community.

“I love bringing a smile to peoples’ faces, and it is so much fun,” Tulik said. “This is truly a joyful place.”

The organization hosts two dress drives, in the fall, and one at the end of the prom season in June, and this year, had 2,014

dresses donated for all to enjoy.

The dresses are found in a range of sizes from xxs to a size 40, making it an inclusive place for all sizes and all ladies to find their perfect dress.

The collection has grown and is located on Springfield Street at the Palmer Technology Center, in Building 3, taking up a large space and still growing.

Second Times a Charm also takes long and short cocktail dresses, formal dresses, wedding dresses, and formal shoes, purses, and rhinestone jewelry.

Everything is free, and there is a suggested donation of \$20 per dress, but it is completely optional. “We want everyone to leave with a dress, and feel happy, with no stress.”

The bridal suite is beautifully decorated with dresses both brand new and used, vintage, and boho, to match any bride’s style. The boutique is open by appointment only, and there is a suggested \$50 donation for these dresses.

There were several drive-up and drop-off locations in parking lots of high schools, churches, libraries, and community centers all over.

Agawam, Amherst, Barre, Belchertown, Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Granby, Hampden, Longmeadow, Ludlow, New

Braintree, Northampton, Palmer and Three Rivers, South Hadley, Southampton, Springfield, Sturbridge, Sunderland, Ware, Westfield, West Springfield, and Wilbraham were all drop-off locations.

You can find Second Time’s a Charm open on Saturdays and Sundays only from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and open for special times on Dec. 14 and Jan. 11 to May 10, 2025.

You can find them on Facebook, as well as on their new website that just launched this week, at www.secondtimesacharm.org.

The Second Time’s a Charm Dress Drive brought in 700 new dresses, and so much more to make prom in the spring even more exciting.



The awesome volunteers that make this nonprofit run: Michelle Anecchiarico, Kim Dewey, Cindy Godreau, Ann Marie Perez, Eileen Mongeon, and Natalina Tulik.

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No gas, all glory

Mass Clean Energy Week features EV showcase at PMP

BY PAULA OUIMETTE
pouimette@turley.com

PALMER – For the first time ever, the commonwealth will celebrate and explore renewable energy with Mass Clean Energy Week, to be held Nov. 11-15.

Mass Clean Energy Week will feature a number of events that will highlight various types of renewable energy, including solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal and more.

“We’re really just trying to shine a light on how Massachusetts is an innovator in clean energy,” Scott Johnson, CEO of State Renewable Energy, Inc. said.

Mass Clean Energy Week kicks-off with breakfast at Boston University on Monday, Nov. 11 from 9-10:30 a.m., followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the university’s Center for Computing & Data Sciences from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Dennis Carlberg, the Chief of Sustainability at Boston University will be the featured speaker at the breakfast.

Johnson said the building operates using geothermal energy, and doesn’t rely on any fossil fuels.

“They use solar and wind, too,”

he said. “The future is here.”

From 2:30-4:30 p.m., participants can take an exclusive tour of the Polestar Boston Showroom and get an up-close look at the electric vehicles’ impressive design.

On Tuesday, Nov. 21 from 10-11 a.m., learn about UMass Boston’s hidden coastal sustainability secrets, along with a tour of the hidden power beneath New England at the Northfield Mountain Pump Storage from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Travel to Lowell for a look at the Boott Hydroelectric Project with a tour from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, Nov. 13 from noon-4 p.m., experience the thrill of Whiskey Hill at Palmer Motorsports Park for the “No Gas, All Glory! Charge Ahead All-Electric Showcase” which allows people a rare opportunity to test drive cutting-edge electric vehicles on one of the top-rated tracks in North America.

Mass Clean Energy Week continues from 7-8:30 p.m. with “Powering Newton’s Future” a look into community networked geothermal energy.

On Thursday, Nov. 14 from 9:30-10:30 a.m., tour Boston University’s sustainable campus and experience the “green revolution” firsthand. From 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., get a behind-the-scenes look at clean energy innovation at Deer Island Treatment Plant



TURLEY PHOTO BY PAULA OUIMETTE

State Renewable Energy, Inc. visited Palmer Motorsports Park recently to promote the “No Gas, All Glory! Charge Ahead All-Electric Showcase” on Wednesday, Nov. 13 as part of Mass Clean Energy Week.

in Winthrop, the second largest wastewater treatment facility in the U.S.

From noon-1:15 p.m., tour Vicinity Energy’s historical Kendall Square facility in Cambridge.

Mass Clean Energy Week ends on Friday, Nov. 15 with a sustainability tour of the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center from 2-3:15 p.m. and the grand finale at Boston Harbor Distillery from 5-7:15 p.m.

“The EV ride and drive is the biggest and most talked about event,” Johnson said of the Mass

Clean Energy Week events.

The “No Gas, All Glory!” event will feature all of the big name suppliers of electric vehicles, including Tesla, Lucid, Polestar and more. This is the first event of its kind to combine a world-class track with an all-electric vehicle showcase.

Helping to make this event possible are Light Efficient Design, Independent Electric Supply and Energy Source.

“The three of them have generously sponsored the event,”

Johnson said Balise Auto will also be bringing a number of elec-

tric vehicles to the event, including Toyota, Chevrolet, Lexus, Kia, Hyundai and Ford.

“We’re going to make it a fun day,” Johnson said.

In addition to the electric vehicle showcase, there will be food trucks and the chance to test drive the vehicles on the 2.3 mile-long track, which gives a stunning, panoramic view from its peak.

Recently, Johnson and his team were joined by representatives from Lucid Motors and Polestar Boston, also event sponsors, who

Please see **CLEAN ENERGY**, page 19

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COMMUNITY

LOCAL EVENTS

Winter Market dates

BELCHERTOWN— The Belchertown Farmers and Artisans Market have put together two upcoming winter markets this year. Mark the calendars for Sunday Nov. 17 and Sunday Dec. 15 to stop by Jabish Brook Middle School, 62 N. Washington St., and shop for local produce, one of a kind gifts, snacks and more. Market hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Nov. 17 market will also be holding a food drive. Market Manager, Brittini Robidoux said “Bring 3 canned goods and receive a \$5 market gift card to be used that day. Giving back to the community we live in is

important not only to the market, but all of the vendors.”

While the Winter Markets will have many of the summertime vendors, organizers also bring in some new artisans for those one of a kind gifts. Also, 2025 Market Gift Cards will be on sale at the Market Manager’s table. Shop local and help our community grow and connect. For more information, follow the Market’s social media channels on Facebook and Instagram. Email at belchertownfarmersmarket@gmail.com and website address is: www.belchertownfarmersmarket.weebly.com.

History talk at Clapp Memorial

BELCHERTOWN— Come discover the history of the indigenous and nonindigenous peoples of North Belchertown, or Dwight, on Thursday, Nov. 14, from 7 to 8 p.m., at the Clapp Memorial Library.

Belchertown Historical Association’s assistant archivist Michael Carolan will discuss notable events, architecture and landscapes, from the 18th to the 20th centuries, of this unique eight-square-mile district and its contributions to art, industry, politics, science and religion. The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher—the most famous man in

America, gave his first sermon here. The son of a founder of the area developed a most surprising affair. Dwight is celebrated as the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln’s first biographer. Emily Dickinson’s sister-in-law helped establish its chapel. Rare aquatic flower gardens drew hundreds through Dwight’s two railroad stops. There were also feuds, accidents, suicides, drownings, fires, the millwright who outlived six wives and the portrait painter who rendered the place and its characters in colorfully detailed letters preserved to this day.

Jazz piano concert, Nov. 15

BELCHERTOWN— Join the Clapp Memorial Library on Friday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Belchertown United Church of Christ, 20 Park Street, for a Jazz piano concert by Stephen Page. The concert will be performed on the Library’s newly restored 1877 Steinway Grand Piano, which is being wel-

comed back to Belchertown. The piano restoration was made possible through a grant from the Belchertown Community Preservation Act Committee. Apple cider and donuts will be available following the performance. This program is funded by the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library.

GRANBY

GPL November events

GRANBY— The Granby Public Library, 297 E. State St., will be holding events throughout October and November. For more information, please visit <http://granbylibrary.com>.

Pastel Workshop with Greg Maichack

Saturday, Nov. 16 at 11 a.m.

Join us and pastel paint your own Seascapes in Pastel Inspired by Winslow Homer. All levels of experience are welcome. Space is limited, so please call the library to reserve your space to join us for pastel painting!

On Saturday, Nov. 16 at 11 a.m., award-winning artist Gregory Maichack will present

“Seascapes: How to Pastel Paint” at the Granby Free Public Library.

This workshop offers both beginner and advanced participants an opportunity to creatively explore pastel painting inspired by the work of Winslow Homer. Participants will receive instruction on expressive pastel strokes, blending, slurring, layering and creating the wave effect of spray by embedding pigment particles into the painting. Please call (413) 467-3320.

This project is supported in part from a grant from the Granby Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Granby High class of 1979 Reunion to take place Nov. 30

GRANBY—The Granby High School class of 1979 will hold a 45th reunion on Saturday, Nov. 30 at Johnnie’s Tap Room in South Hadley. The reunion will begin with a social hour at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and include dinner and music. Tickets

can be purchased via Venmo to Doreen (Chauvin) Beard at Doreen-Beard-2. Contact Denise (Emond) Billow to buy tickets via check or for more information, at dbillow@pittsfield.net. Please share this information with fellow classmates.

BusinessWest accepting nominations for the 2025 Difference Makers Awards

SPRINGFIELD – BusinessWest, the business journal of Western Massachusetts, is now accepting nominations for its 17th annual Difference Makers awards.

In 2009, BusinessWest initiated the Difference Makers program as a celebration of individuals, groups, organizations, and families that are positively impacting the Pioneer Valley and are, as the name suggests, making a differ-

ence in this region. As previous nominees have shown, there are many ways to do this: through working within the community on one or many initiatives aimed at improving quality of life; through succeeding in business, public service, or education; through inspiring others to get involved; through making an imaginative effort to help solve societal issues; or a combination of the above.

Nature is Fun Times at the GPL

GRANBY— Twice Monthly, on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Granby public library’s Community Room, come join Ranger Tasha for hands on science. Enjoy a nature theme story, learn hands on and make a craft about the world around us in New England. Ranger Tasha teaches interesting, lesser known facts about each topic, always keeps it interesting.

Upcoming dates and topics

- Nov. 19 Frogs and Turtles in Winter
 - Nov. 26 Turkeys
 - Dec. 3 Birds Adapt to Winter
 - Dec.10 Snowflake Science
 - Jan. 7 Living under the Snow
 - Jan. 14 Fur, what is it good for?
 - Feb. 4 Woodpeckers - Nature’s Drumming Rockstars
 - Feb. 11 The Stink of Love - Skunks are looking for mates
- Presented by Tasha Daniels, Park Ranger/Visitor Services Specialist at the Silvio O.Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Ages 3 and up.



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OBITUARY

DEATH NOTICE

Frederick H. Stueckroth
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Services Nov. 14, 2024
New England Funeral &
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The Sentinel
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Frederick H. Stueckroth

Frederick H. Stueckroth, 87, a long time
Belchertown, MA resident, passed away on November
3, 2024. He was born in
Holyoke, MA on March
3, 1937, a son of the late
Erhard and Maria (Attinger)
Stueckroth. He was retired
from H.P. Hood and Sons in
Agawam, MA and was a very
active member of St. Peter's
Lutheran Church in Holyoke
where he was a Sunday school
teacher, deacon, lector, greeter
and lay server. Fred was also
a member of the Loyal Order
of Moose, Lodge 1849 in Chicopee, MA, Vasa Order
of America Lodge #9, the American Union of Swedish
Singers and former member of the Verdandi Male
Chorus in Rhode Island. He is survived by his children:
Kenneth Stueckroth, Karen Jessup, Maryanne
Stueckroth, Sharon Charron and Lynn Fontaine (John).
He also leaves his brother William Stueckroth of WI
and his sister Lee Miller of FL, brother-in-law John
Setterstrom, many grandchildren and great grandchildren.
Sadly, he was predeceased by his wife Barbara
(Setterstrom) Stueckroth, his son, Edward Alzak, brother,
Robert Stueckroth and brothers-in-law Raymond
Setterstrom and Ernest Setterstrom. A period of visitation
will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. with a funeral
service at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14, 2024 at St.
Peter's Lutheran Church, 34 Jarvis Avenue, Holyoke,
MA. Burial will follow at Forestdale Cemetery, Cabot
Street, Holyoke. New England Funeral & Cremation
Center, 25 Mill Street, Springfield has been entrusted
with the arrangements. Please visit Frederick's memorial
page at www.nefcc.net for expressions of sympathy.
" So Long "



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more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any
error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the
space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

Virtual support groups
for those with cancer

PALMER— During a cancer journey
patients and their families often benefit
from the support of others. Virtual support
groups are being held now and through
2025, by Camille St.Onge, LICSW and
oncology social worker.

For many years, people had to travel
to a predetermined location to attend
cancer support group meetings. As a result
of restrictions during the COVID-19
pandemic virtual support groups began
meeting entirely online, with participants
joining through video conferencing
platforms like Zoom. Today, many people
prefer this method because it offers
flexibility, and convenience, and allows
them to access support from where they
are without needing to physically travel
to a meeting location.

"Sharing concerns with a support group
can be a beneficial way for people facing
cancer to get the help they need to cope
with the physical and emotional concerns
that arise during and after a cancer
diagnosis," said St. Onge. "While support
and self-help groups can vary greatly, groups

share one thing in common, they are a
place where people can share personal
stories, express emotions, and be heard
in an atmosphere of acceptance,
understanding, and encouragement."

The support groups are designed to
help patients, their families and caregivers
cope with the challenges of a cancer
diagnosis.

Virtual Support Group offerings include:
General Cancer Support Group: first
Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m. to
12:30 p.m.; Partners in Caregiving:
second Wednesday of each month, 5 to
6:30 p.m.; Expressive Writing through
Cancer, third Wednesday of each month,
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Breast Cancer Support
Group, fourth Wednesday of each month,
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

All meetings are currently held
virtually and are made possible by funds
raised by the Walk of Champions. For
more information contact Camille St.Onge,
LICSW, Oncology Social Worker by calling
413-239-7239 or by email at
cstomagin@gmail.com.

'Operation Safe Campus' aims to keep
students safe from alcohol-related harm

BOSTON – The Alcoholic Beverage
Control Commission, under the direction
of State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg,
implemented Operation Safe Campus in
September.

The annual program is designed to
target underage drinking on college
campuses and in surrounding communities
when students return to colleges and
universities throughout Massachusetts.
The goal of the program is to keep
alcoholic beverages out of the hands of
underage students and prevent
tragedies.

"Operation Safe Campus helps to
start the school year right. It is important
to remind college students, servers, and
sellers alike the true danger of underage
drinking," said Goldberg, who oversees
the ABCC. "We want to increase
awareness and avoid tragedies before they
happen while protecting minors and their
families from experiencing serious
consequences."

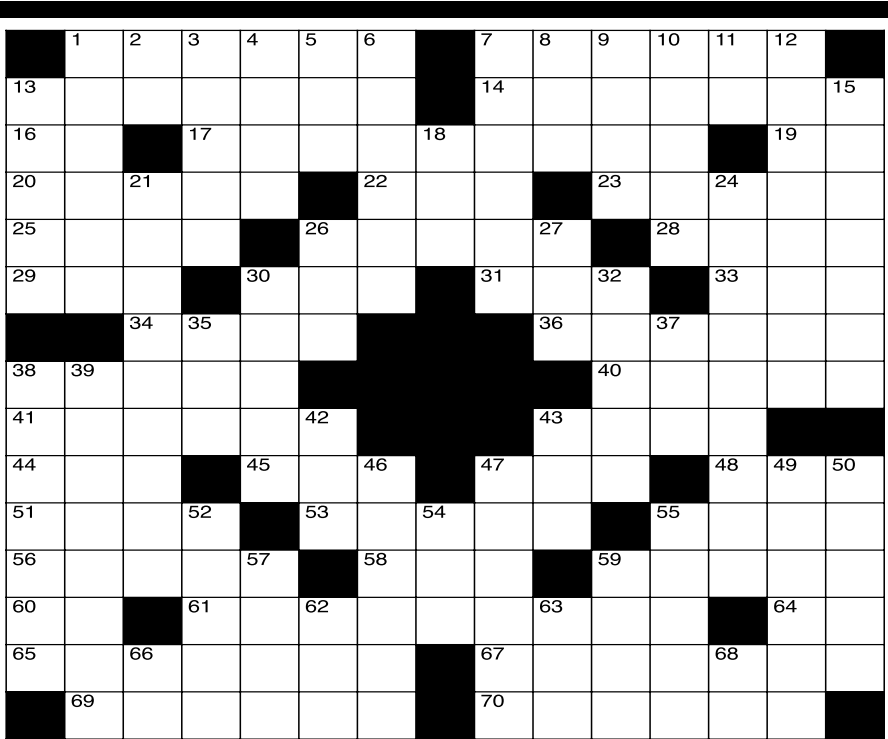
During the run of the program,
approximately 157 cases of beer and 153
bottles of alcohol were confiscated by
Investigators, preventing delivery to an
estimated 2,100 underage individuals.
Operation Safe Campus enforcement
efforts found:

302 minors in possession, transporting
or attempting to purchase alcoholic
beverages, 21 adults procuring alcohol
for minors, and 108 individuals in
possession of false identification.

"This operation focuses on the
immediate safety of Massachusetts
college students and the surrounding
communities while drawing attention to
the dangers of underage drinking," said
Jean Lorizio, chairperson of the ABCC.
"We want to make sure that underage
people are aware that drinking alcohol
can have devastating consequences upon
them and those they love."

Enforcement efforts focus primarily
on the parking lots and surrounding
streets of liquor stores and bars that
have had significant problems with
underage individuals purchasing
alcoholic beverages with false
identification or through adults buying
alcoholic beverages for them. In
Worcester, ABCC Investigators worked
in partnership with the Worcester
Police Department's Alcohol
Enforcement Unit.

Please see SAFE CAMPUS, page 19



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Schoolhouse tool
7. Martens
13. Slags
14. One who scrapes
16. Centiliter
17. White wine
19. Of I
20. Former Syracuse
great Warrick
22. Relating to the ear
23. Sandwich shops
25. Victories
26. White (French)
28. Self-immolation by
fire ritual
29. Genus of parrots
30. Unhappy
31. Talk incessantly
33. Type of Squad
34. Unit of perceived
loudness
36. Violent seizure of
property
38. Agave
40. Sound units

- 41. Removes from
record
43. Partner to Mama
44. Mythological bird
45. Dash
47. Hair product
48. Two-year-old sheep
51. Signs a deal
53. Conifer
55. Autonomous
republic in NW
Russia
56. Wife of Muhammed
58. British Air Aces
59. Ears or ear-like
appendages
60. Not caps
61. Deep-bodied sea
dweller
64. Rural delivery
65. Feeling
67. Study of relations
of organisms to one
another
69. Room to argue
70. Question

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cream puff
2. Road open
3. Stressed syllable
4. Thailand's former
name
5. Cologne
6. Recounted
7. Garment of cloth
8. Airborne (abbr.)
9. Reproduced
10. Emits coherent
radiation
11. "Westworld" actor
Harris
12. Smallest interval in
Western music
13. Unstressed central
vowel
15. Lives in
18. When you expect to
get somewhere
21. Storage bags
24. One who covers with
plastic
26. Cast out
27. Automobile
30. Repaired shoe
32. Belonging to the
bottom layer
35. Possesses
37. Soda
38. Programs
39. In an unexpected way
42. A bag-like structure
in a plant or animal
43. For each
46. Unbelief
47. Seized or impaled
49. Arrive on the scene
50. Especially happy
52. Classic western film
54. Split pulses
55. Frida __: Painter
57. Start again
59. Employee stock
ownership plan
62. Young women's
association
63. Frozen water
66. "The First State"
68. Computers need one

POPPIES from page 1

both men and women who's spouse,
father, mother, or other family are a
veteran.

"For me, its very important to give
back to veterans because my family is
heavily in service," said Rose Ladue, a
member of the Auxiliary, and her
husband, son, and daughter-in-law are
all veterans.

"All of the money goes directly to a
veteran," said Jen Bernatchez, another
member of the Auxiliary. "We ensure
that every veteran gets what they need,
and are well taken care of."

The Poppy Drive also helps to raise
funds for Wreaths Across America,
which is when people hang wreaths on
the graves of veterans, and this year, on
December 14, it will be done nationally
in order to recognize our fallen
veterans and their service.

Once a year as well, the Auxiliary
selects

a family with someone away on
active duty like a parent, to support for
Christmas, and they purchase all of the
Christmas presents for the kids.

The Auxiliary was built to provide
for the Legion, hosting fundraisers like
the Poppy Drive, as well as their yearly
craft fair fundraiser, which is coming up
this year on November 23 to raise funds
for the Auxiliary.

"It's a way to stay connected to my
dad who passed away, as well as all the
others who served," Bernatchez said.

"Being with other Auxiliary members
[is the most meaningful] and being able
to share a passion of helping veterans
with others," Ladue said.

The Auxiliary works hard to ensure
that the veterans who fought for us, are
fought for, and receive what they need,
as they return home to people who
cherish them.

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Orioles open tournament with shutout



Joseph Borelli goes for a loose ball.



Joseph Yoon circles around the ball and heads up the field.



Esat Cayan heads up the field.



Jack Mandeville extends for save.



Chase Connor advances past midfield.



Kamden Houle socks a free kick away.

WILBRAHAM – Last Monday evening, Belchertown borrowed the turf at Minnechaug Regional High School and defeated Watertown in the Round of 32 in the Division 3 State Tournament. The Orioles would move into the second round, facing Pope Francis and falling 3-0. Highlights from that game will be in next week's edition. Belchertown's season ended at 6-7-7.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Cody White looks to shoot on goal.



Riley Goodhind tries to separate from an opponent.



Stephen Szlosek advances up the field.



Brandon Chatel passes up the field.



Brodie Funk heads up the field.

Santiago goal lifts Rams

GRANBY – On Sunday, Nov. 3, Granby High School boys soccer advanced into the Round of 32 in the State Division 5 Tournament. Granby defeated Old Colony

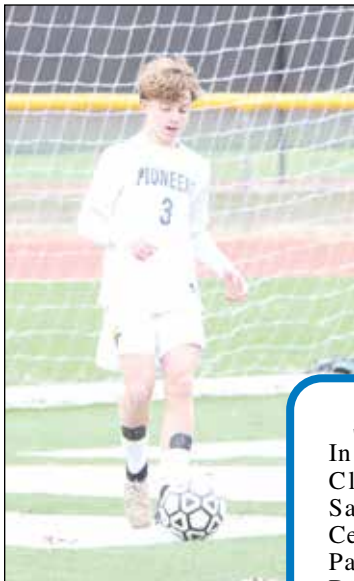
Regional High School. Anthony Santiago had the lone goal in the matchup in the second half while Daniel Santiago made three saves for the shutout.



LEFT: Gavin Moreno looks to take the loose ball

SPORTS

Greylock edge's Pathfinder WMass final



Justin Davis gets ready to make a goal kick.



Ethan DeBettencourt fights to keep the ball.



Jaleel Nevue-Roman gets ready to head the ball.



Zander Auffrey turns to corral a loose ball.



Goalie Aiden Santiago punts the ball away.



Evan Costa looks to play the loose ball.

SPRINGFIELD – In the Western Mass. Class D finals on Saturday, Nov. 2 at Central High School, Pathfinder's Adonis Dupre and Evan Costa scored goals to help the Pioneers come back in the game. But an overtime goal by Mt. Greylock would give the Mounties the Western Mass. title. Pathfinder would move on to the state tournament, facing Mystic Valley Regional Charter on the road to open the tournament.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Hall of Fame Series heads for Vegas

PHOENIX – Position Sports, in partnership with the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA), announced that the 2027 Hall of Fame Series Las Vegas will take place at the iconic Allegiant Stadium on November 12, 2027, marking the first-ever basketball game at the renowned stadium.

The historic event will feature two marquee matchups between elite men's basketball programs: Arizona vs. Duke and Indiana vs. Kansas. Both games will once again be showcased on TNT Sports' networks and platforms, with additional programming information to be announced at a later date.

These four teams represent some of the most storied traditions in college basketball, with a combined 15 national championships, over 35 Hall of Famers, and a legion of passionate fans. The rivalry between Duke and Arizona, which will be on display in Tucson, Ariz., on November 22, as well as the timeless Kansas vs. Indiana matchup, is set to provide fans an unforgettable experience and signal a significant milestone in Las Vegas' sports history.

Please see **HALL OF FAME**, page 17

Owls field hockey wins conference title

WESTFIELD – Westfield State junior forward Kaleigh Murphy (Pembroke, Mass.) scored the game winning goal with 4:20 left in regulation to lift the Owls to the 2024 Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference title with a 2-1 win over Bridgewater State on Saturday afternoon at Alumni Field.

With the win, the Owls improve to 13-8 and set a school record for wins, and earn the MASCAC's automatic bid to the 2024 NCAA Division III Tournament.

Tied 1-1 throughout the second half, Murphy had several golden-opportunity chances in front of the net before eventually tallying the game winner.

Murphy found the back of the net, stepping in to ball from Sadie Stauffer (Suffield, Conn.) about three yards in front of the goal as the ball was batted around the critical scoring area.

"We've been a team that's been resilient and been able to change the narrative of a game throughout the season," said Westfield State second-year head coach Carden Brown. "Going into the third and fourth quarter we were really focused on staying tough and knowing we'd get another goal if we just kept shooting."

Second-seeded Westfield survived one final flurry from

the fifth-seeded Bears, as Bridgewater mustered a pair of penalty corners in the final four minutes, and Owls goalkeeper Emma Gnaidek (Worcester, Mass.) came up with the save on

Kallie Rose's (Dartmouth, Mass.) shot with 1:52 left that represented the Bears best chance to equalize.

Westfield finished the game with a 25-7 advantage in total shots and a 13-3 margin in shots on goal, but the game was tightly played throughout as the Bears made the most of their opportunities and penalty corners were even at 8 each.

Westfield State jumped out to a 1-0 lead 2:20 into the contest, with Erin Lane (Canton, Mass.) pushing a shot through traffic about 10 yards out, from the left side to the back post. The goal came off of a penalty corner, as Lane's initial foray was parried by a Bridgewater defender. Murphy gathered the loose ball and fed it back out to Lane, and her shot worked its way through several players and past BSU goalkeeper Brianna Gagnon (Tewksbury, Mass.) for the 1-0 lead.

"It was really even, I thought Bridgewater played really well," said Brown. "We knew they were going to be a tough opponent. We wanted to have a fast start and sustain it throughout

the game."

Bridgewater tied the game late in the first half, capitalizing on a penalty corner, with give and go passing at the top of the circle before Abbie Zuber's (Westport, Mass./Dartmouth) shot from the top of the circle was tipped in at the right post by Lexi James (Ipswich, Mass.).

Westfield State midfielder Abby Clark (Uxbridge, Mass.) was named the Tournament MVP.

"She's been a key player for us, she gets things done, and above all else elevates the energy level of the team, said Brown of Clark's performance. "When she's out there she's our biggest hustler, she works really hard. It was a very fitting award for her."

Gagnon finished with 11 saves for the Bears, while Gnaidek made two saves for the Owls.

Bridgewater finishes its season at 10-9.

Westfield will make its first NCAA Tournament appearance since the Owls hosted the inaugural NCAA Division III Tournament final four in 1981. The Owls will learn their destination and opponent on Sunday night at 9:30 p.m. on a livestream shot on NCAA.com.

"We want to be a team that's not only just strong in the MASCAC but strong in the region," said Brown. "And I think in order to do that you have to compete in the NCAA tournament and keep improving each and every season. I'm really excited and excited to see how we'll do."



Thunderbirds pick up point in OT defeat

HERSHEY, PA - The Springfield Thunderbirds (4-8-1-0) incredibly erased a two-goal deficit in the final minute of the third, but the Hershey Bears (9-3-1-0) survived to pick up a 3-2 overtime win at the Giant Center on Sunday.

Like the opening 20 minutes on Saturday, the homestanding Bears were ferocious in getting shots at the Springfield net, this time on Colten Ellis. However, like the night before, the T-Birds got a sensational first period from their goaltender, as Ellis had a response to all 20 shots the Hershey attack unleashed, including chances that came from two power plays. The 20 stops were the most in a single period this season by a Springfield netminder.

At the other end, Clay Stevenson was starting his first start in nearly a month after missing six games with an upper-body injury, and the Hershey goaltender had a distinctly quieter workload, turning aside seven Springfield offerings and helping the Bears' penalty kill fend off one T-Birds power play.

Shots on goal did not come as easily for Hershey in the middle period. Still, the fourth line did get the Bears on the board first at the 10:14 mark when Matt Strome retrieved a loose puck below the goal line and fired a pass into the blue paint to a crashing Riley Sutter, who chipped it over Ellis on the glove side to make it 1-0.

The Bears' defense proved to be an impenetrable force in the second, as Springfield managed just four shots on goal in the

entire period, and the Hershey penalty kill dispatched two more Thunderbirds man-advantage opportunities.

Stevenson and the Hershey defense corps showed no signs of relenting anything to the T-Birds, and when Spencer Smallman tucked a puck into an empty net with 2:06 remaining, the Bears' 2-0 lead seemed secure.

However, the never-say-die T-Birds refused to go down. Samuel Johannesson scored his first AHL goal with 40.5 seconds remaining, squeezing a wrist shot between Stevenson's legs to end the shutout bid.

Just 27 seconds later, with Ellis at the bench for an extra skater, Nikita Alexandrov beared in on the right wing side and backhanded the puck into the paint. With Matthew Peca crashing the net, the shot attempt slipped under Stevenson's legs, and the game was tied 2-2 heading into overtime.

With momentum on their side, the T-Birds could not quite complete the miraculous comeback attempt. Ellis denied his 40th shot of the night to stop Pierrick Dube in the opening minute of overtime. Unfortunately for the T-Birds netminder, the loose rebound went right on the stick of Mike Vecchione, who pushed it across the line to give Hershey the 3-2 victory.

The T-Birds return to home ice for five of the next six games, beginning on Friday, Nov. 15 when they host the Lehigh Valley Phantoms.



Friends having some fun together while their kids trick-or treat: Renee Slater, Amanda Tetreault, Liz Crawford, and Kim Ludkiewicz.



The officers who made the night truly special: Chief Kevin O'Grady, Officer Gary Poehler, Officer Ryan Barthelette, Officer Alan Brooks, and Officer Zacharie Gilley.

Seen recently at Granby's

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The perfect Star Wars bunch- will you choose the light or the dark side?



Members of the Granby Fire Department, Mariya Primakov, Chris Towne, Josh Powers, and Emma Beaulieu.



Alicia Ogg and Beth and Caden Stachowicz with their fabulously decorated trunks. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



Friends making the perfect Inside Out group: (left to right) Anna Patterson, Allison Maslak, Braeden Gallagher, Faith Ramos, and Mylin Laliberte.

HALL OF FAME from page 6

Allegiant Stadium, home of the NFL's Las Vegas Raiders and Super Bowl LVIII, will be hosting its first college basketball games, showcasing the versatility of the venue. The stadium will also serve as the site for the 2028 NCAA Men's Final Four, further solidifying its position as a premier destination for top-tier sporting events.

The Hall of Fame Series, owned and operated by Position Sports, is a collection of multi-game, singular events that showcase several of the top collegiate basketball teams in exciting non-conference matchups played both domestically and abroad. The inaugural Hall of Fame Series took place in 2023 in Las Vegas, Charlotte, San Antonio, Toronto, and Phoenix, and the series continues its successful run in 2024 with upcoming stops in Las Vegas (November 4), Phoenix (November 14), Baltimore (November 15), and New York (December 14).



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PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
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Docket No. HS20P0662EA
Estate of:
Rodney W Gray
Date of Death: 06/29/2020
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Eleanore E Gray** of Belchertown, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of testacy and heirs at law, First and Final Account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/04/2024.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 05, 2024
Mark S Ames,
Register of Probate
11/14/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413)586-8500
Docket No. HS24P0642EA
Estate of:
Dale Edward Hirsch
Date of Death: 09/08/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Kristi M. Behler** of Westfield, IN requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order

and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Kristi M. Behler** of Westfield, IN be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/11/2024.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 05, 2024
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Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

CLEAN ENERGY from page 12

took to the track to film a video to promote Mass Clean Energy Week.

Polestar provided its newest electric vehicle, an SUV called the Polestar 3, which is currently only available for preorder. Lucid provided a sedan, the Lucid Air.

With its minimalistic design, the Polestar 3 combines performance with luxury, creating a one-of-a-kind drive with all of the amenities. Its active air suspension provides a smooth ride, which Polestar refers to as “the golden ride.”

The all-wheel drive vehicle can range up to 315 miles.

The Lucid Air can charge to 200 miles in 12 minutes with an estimated range of 512 miles. With a maximum horsepower of 1,234, the Air can reach 0-60 miles per hour in about 1.89 seconds.

Its solid glass roof can hold the weight of an elephant on it.

Palmer Motorsports Park Club Director Al Sandy said the “No Gas, All Glory!” event is just one of the ways that Palmer Motorsports Park uses its facility to test the newest



The Lucid Air has a sleek, aerodynamic design.

innovations in the automobile industry.

“We are embracing the electric vehicles as they come on board,” he said.

Sandy said the track often has automotive manufacturers come there to test out new projects and technology. Palmer Motorsports Park also works with students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to test their solar powered cars.

While this is the first time the commonwealth has participated in Clean Energy Week, the Bay State has been a leader in renewable energy and innovation, offering a number of programs and incentives to help residents go green.

“Massachusetts is leading the way,” Johnson said. “Now with clean energy, you can actually take control of your energy future...these programs are here; take advantage of them. We live in a state that really cares.”

Johnson spoke about the importance of clean energy options when facing climate change.

“You’re saving the planet and saving a tremendous amount of money,” he said. “You can actually make money going green.”

For more information about Mass Clean Energy Week or to register for any of the events, follow Mass Clean Energy Week on Facebook and Instagram or visit masscleanenergyweek.org.

SAFE CAMPUS from page 14

Several bars and liquor stores will face charges related to the sale to, or possession of, alcoholic beverages by individuals under the age of 21. The businesses include McGovern’s Package Store, Broadway Wine & Liquors, Creed, Ju’s and White Eagle of Worcester; Teele Square Liquors and The Pub of Somerville; Uptown Tap & Grille of Amherst, Scott’s Fine Wines & Spirits of Easton; Chansky’s, Quick Pick Convenience, Bijou and Two Saints of Boston.

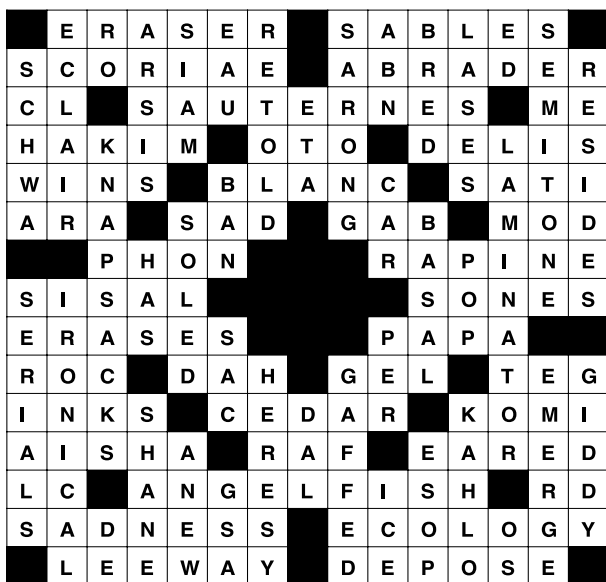
Annually, approximately 1,519 college students between the ages of 18 to 24 die from alcohol-related injuries, including motor vehicle crashes, 696,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are assaulted by another student who has been drinking, and 14 percent of college students meet the criteria for an alcohol use disorder. In Massachusetts alone, the overall annual cost of alcohol abuse by youth is estimated at \$1.4 billion.

In addition, Massachusetts IMPACT impaired driving data

shows that 10% of all traffic fatalities involve drivers under the age of 21.

Massachusetts is among the top ten states for binge drinking, with more than 1 in 4 (27.75%) adults ages 18 or older reporting they binged on alcohol in 2020.

Among young people ages 12 to 20, 20.77% reported alcohol use in the past month and 11.81% reported binge alcohol use in the past month in Massachusetts. The national averages were 17.32% and 10.14%, respectively.



The Sentinel
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